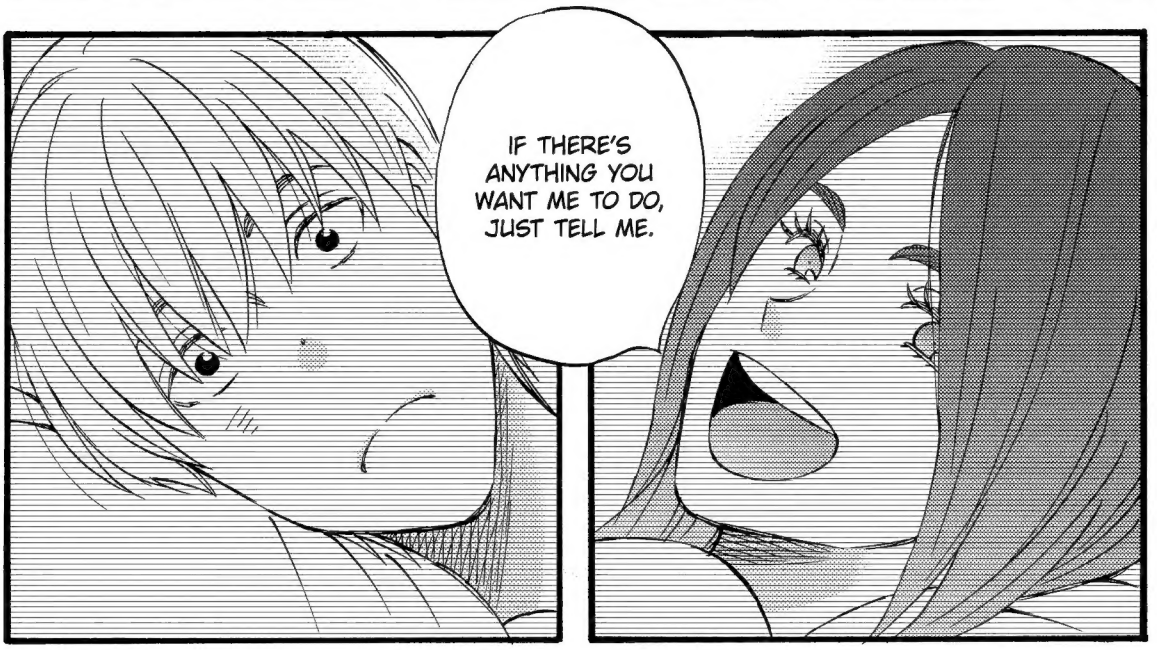
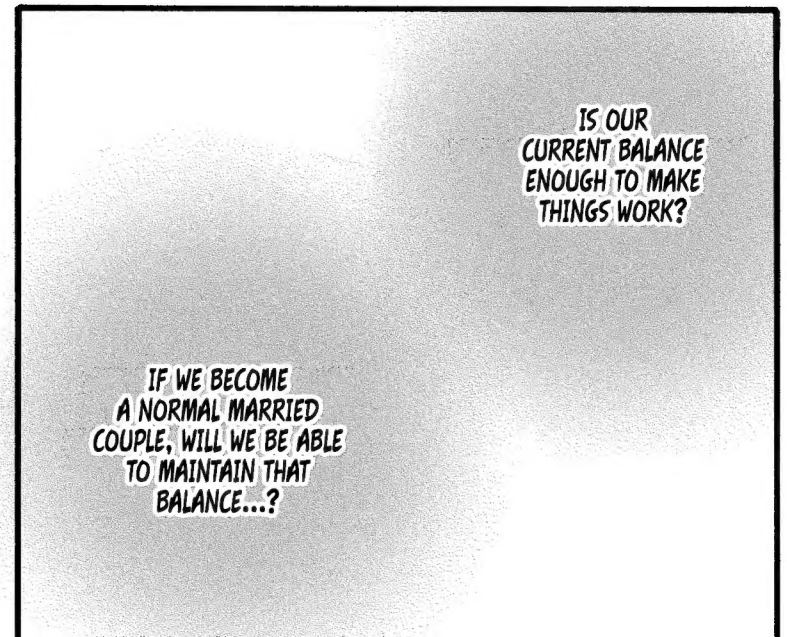
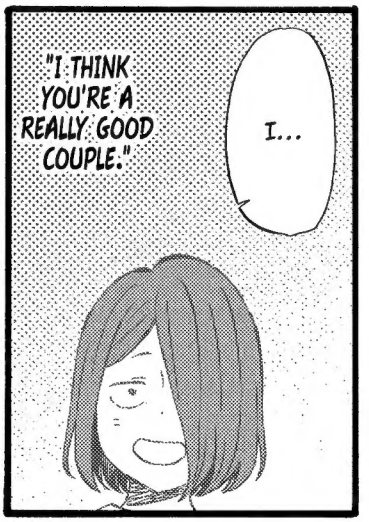
Chapter 45: The Unusual Ishimura-san

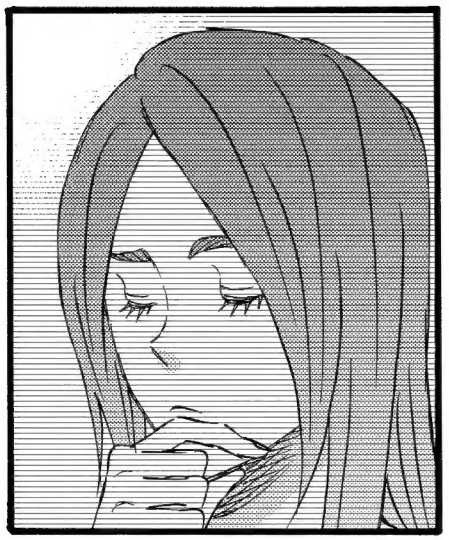
PREVI-OUSLY ON LA LA LA...
ON THE DAY OF THEIR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY, THERE'S A GOOD MOOD BETWEEN KIRISHIMA-KUN AND ISHIMURA-SAN.
THANK YOU FOR THIS PAST YEAR.

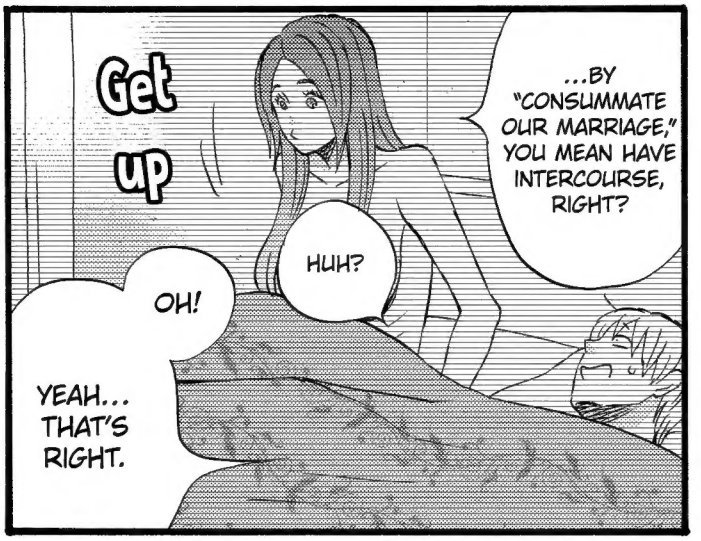

IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU WANT ME TO DO, JUST TELL ME.


IS OUR CURRENT BALANCE ENOUGH TO MAKE THINGS WORK?
IF WE BECOME A NORMAL MARRIED COUPLE, WILL WE BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THAT BALANCE...?

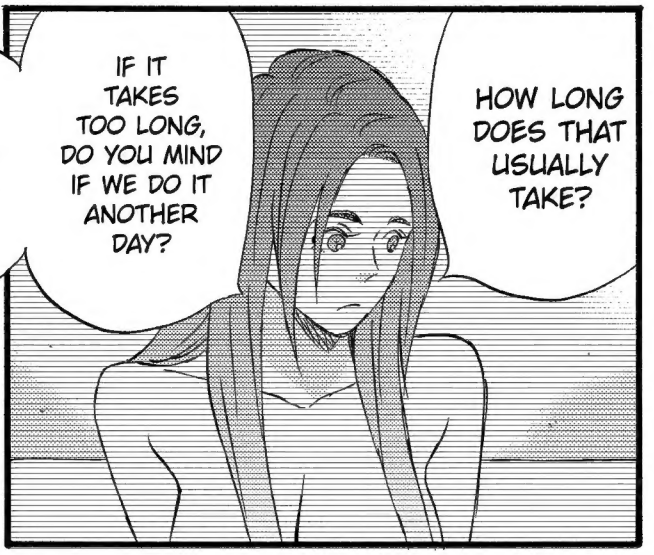

"I THINK YOU'RE A REALLY GOOD COUPLE."
I...

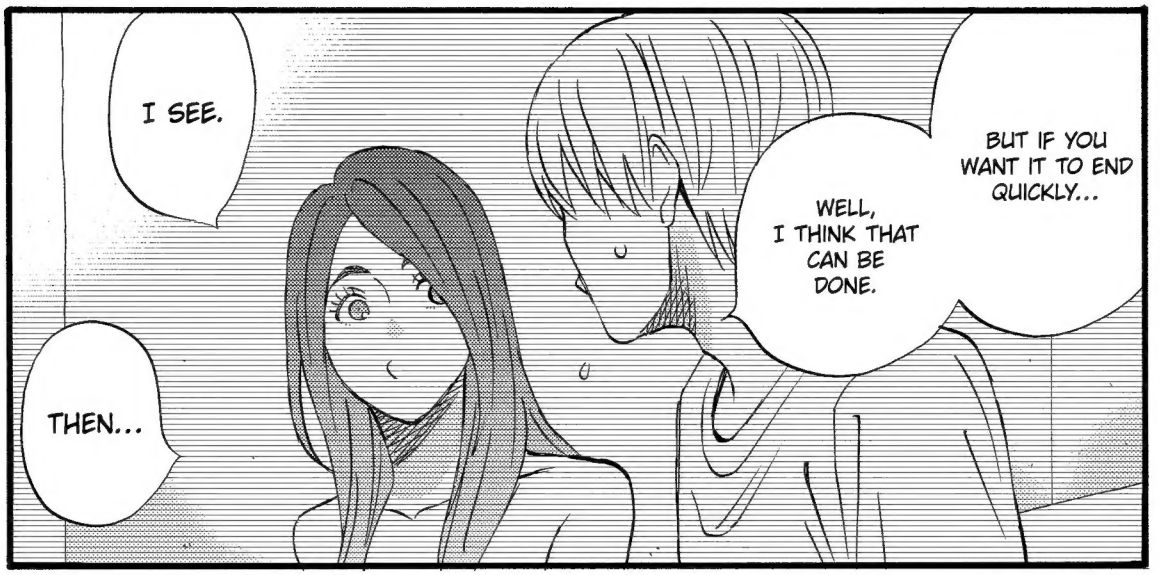
I'M WORRIED, BUT...
BUT...
EVEN SO...
I...
I WANT US TO CONSUMMATE OUR MARRIAGE.
OHH...

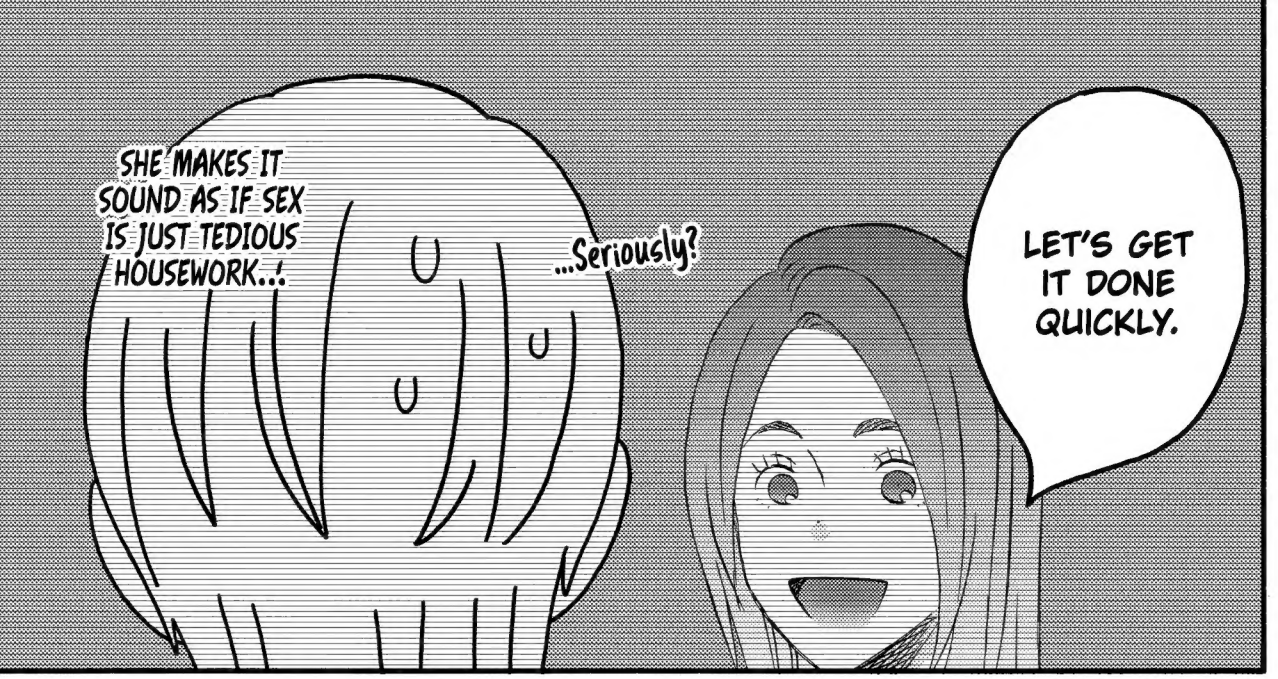


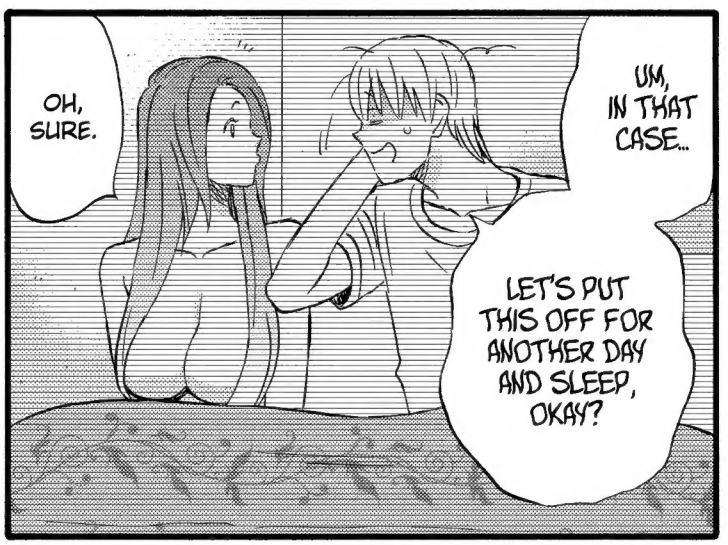

Get up
...BY "CONSUMMATE OUR MARRIAGE," YOU MEAN HAVE INTERCOURSE, RIGHT?
HUH?
OH!
YEAH... THAT'S RIGHT.

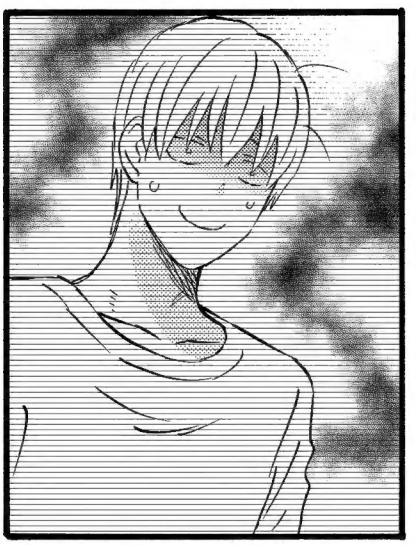
Whaaat...?
...SEX CAN TAKE A WHILE IF YOU WANT IT TO...
I'M PRETTY SLEEPY RIGHT NOW.
Get up

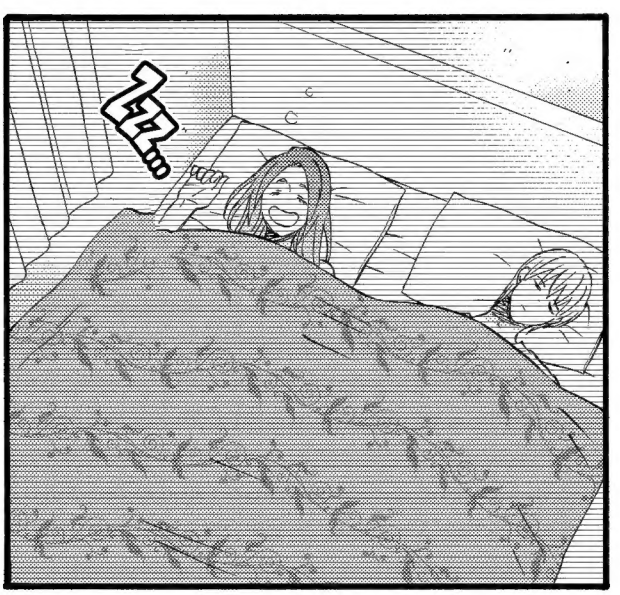

IF IT TAKES TOO LONG, DO YOU MIND IF WE DO IT ANOTHER DAY?
HOW LONG DOES THAT USUALLY TAKE?

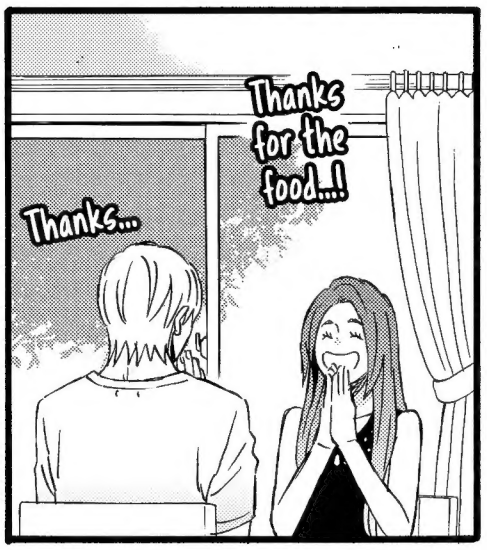

I SEE.
THEN...
WELL, I THINK THAT CAN BE DONE.
BUT IF YOU WANT IT TO END QUICKLY...

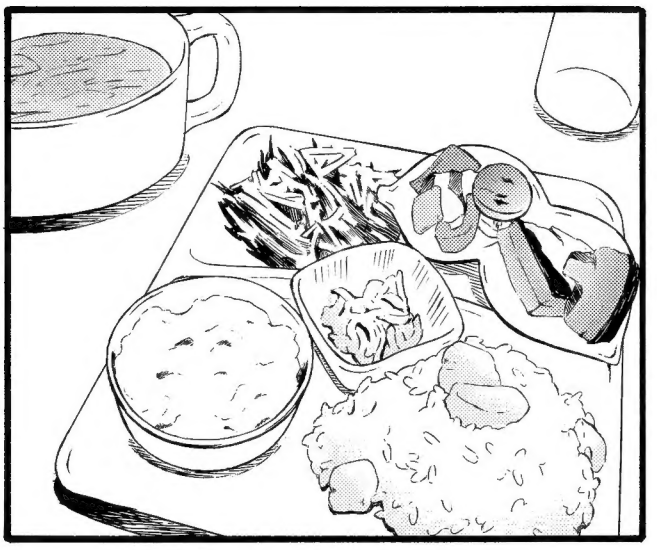

SHE MAKES IT SOUND AS IF SEX IS JUST TEDIOUS HOUSEWORK...!
...Seriously?
LET'S GET IT DONE QUICKLY.

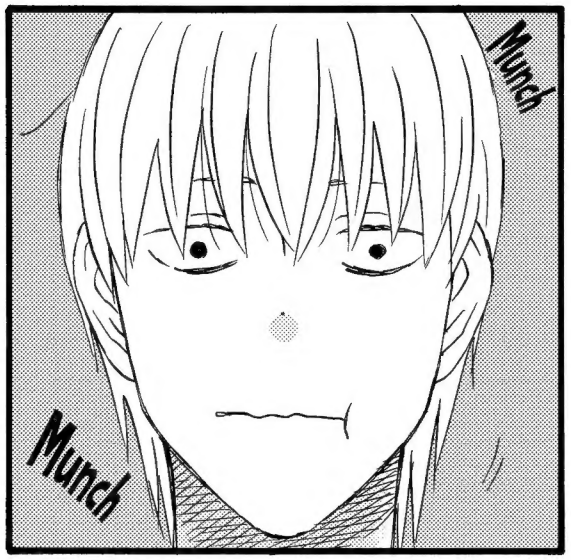

OH, SURE.
UM, IN THAT CASE...
LET'S PUT THIS OFF FOR ANOTHER DAY AND SLEEP, OKAY?

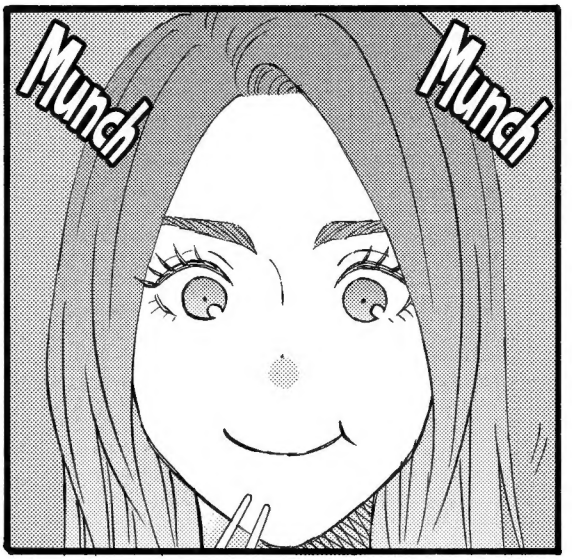


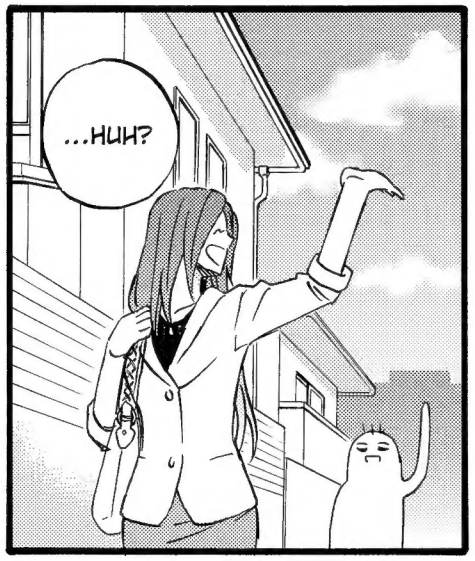

ZZZ...

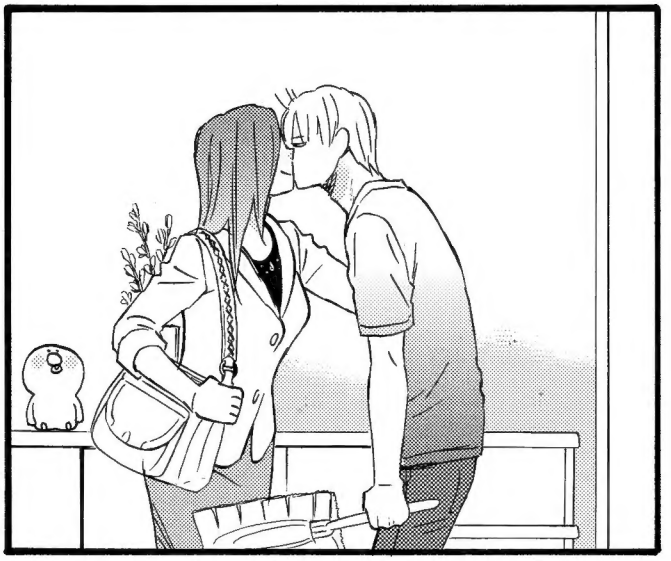

Thanks...
Thanks for the food...!



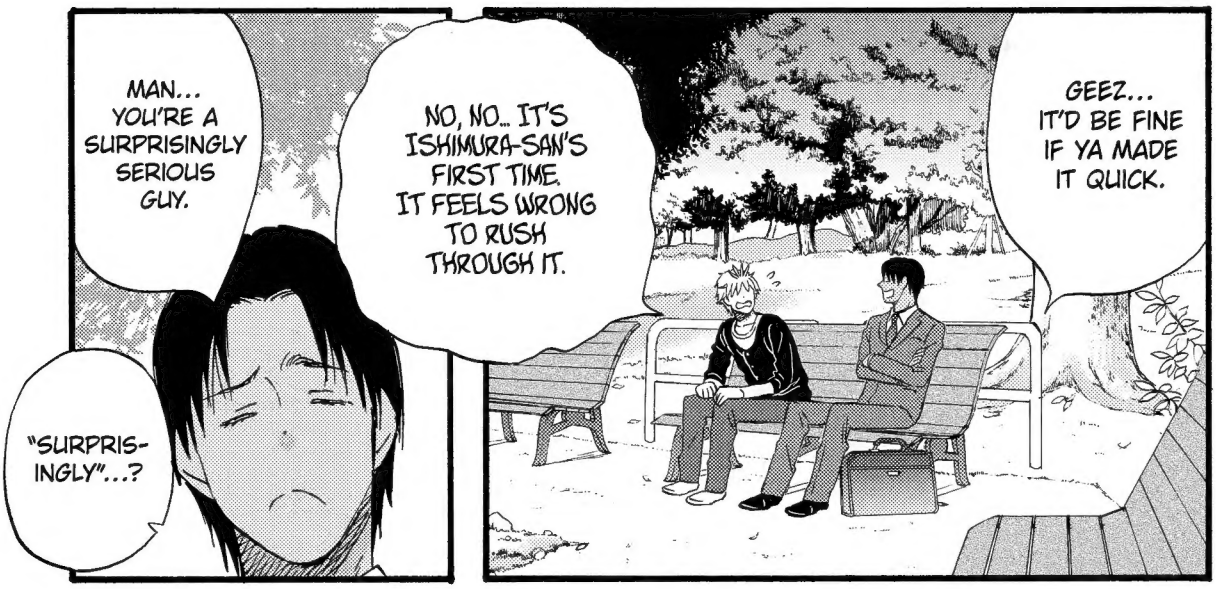

Munch
Munch

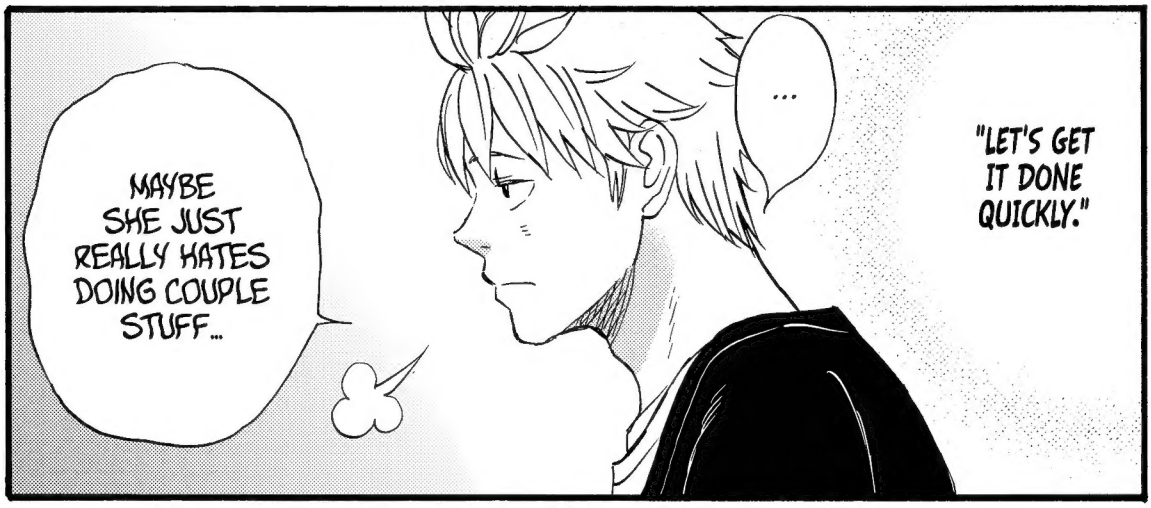

Munch
Munch


...HUH?

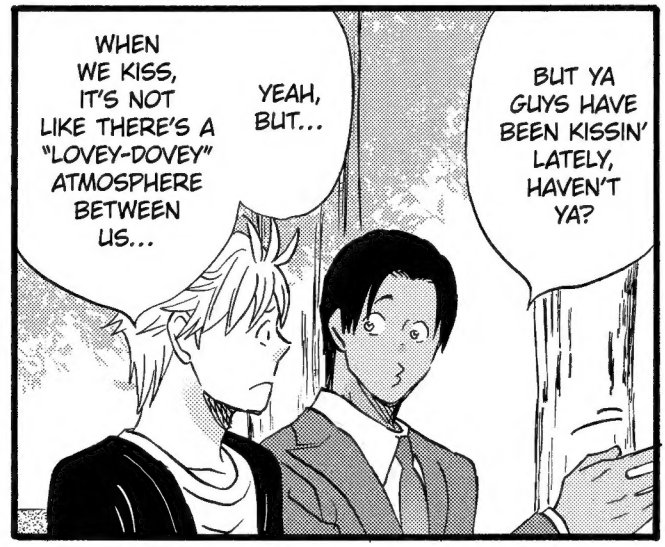


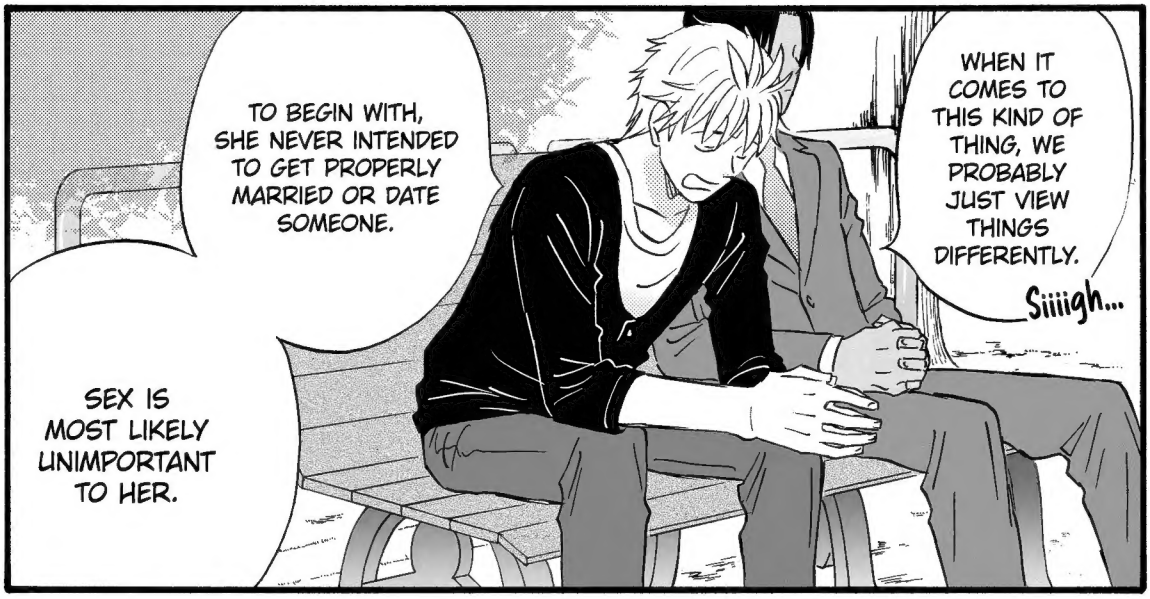
WHAT THE HECK?
...I KNOW, RIGHT?

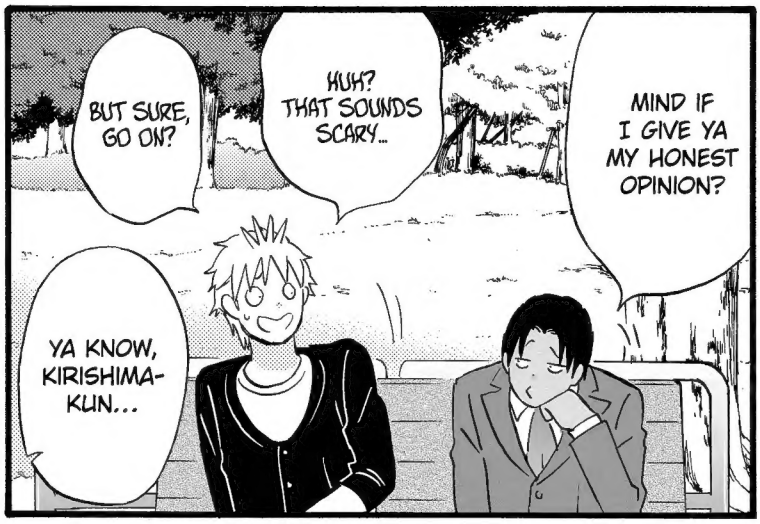

MAN... YOU'RE A SURPRISINGLY SERIOUS GUY.
NO, NO... IT'S ISHIMURA-SAN'S FIRST TIME. IT FEELS WRONG TO RUSH THROUGH IT.
GEEZ... IT'D BE FINE IF YA MADE IT QUICK.
"SURPRIS-INGLY"...?


"LET'S GET IT DONE QUICKLY."
...
MAYBE SHE JUST REALLY HATES DOING COUPLE STUFF...

I FEEL LIKE ISHIMURA-SAN SEES IT AS SIMPLY A PART OF OUR GREETING.

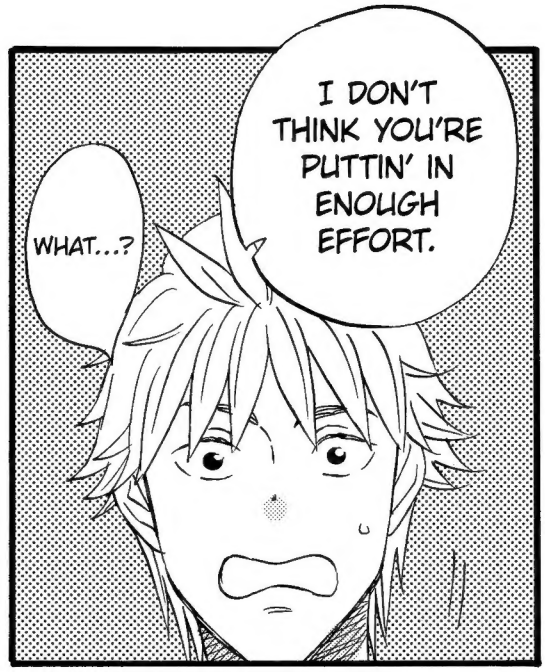

BUT YA GUYS HAVE BEEN KISSIN' LATELY, HAVEN'T YA?
YEAH, BUT...
WHEN WE KISS, IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S A "LOVEY-DOVEY" ATMOSPHERE BETWEEN US...

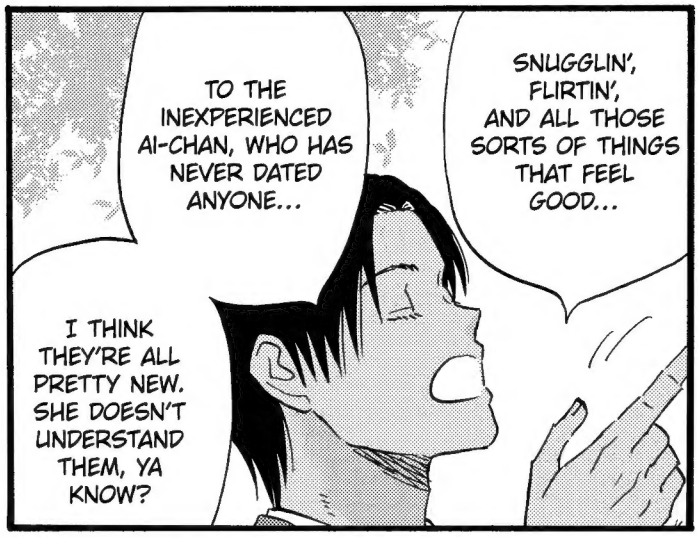

WHEN IT COMES TO THIS KIND OF THING, WE PROBABLY JUST VIEW THINGS DIFFERENTLY.
Siiiigh...
TO BEGIN WITH, SHE NEVER INTENDED TO GET PROPERLY MARRIED OR DATE SOMEONE.
SEX IS MOST LIKELY UNIMPORTANT TO HER.

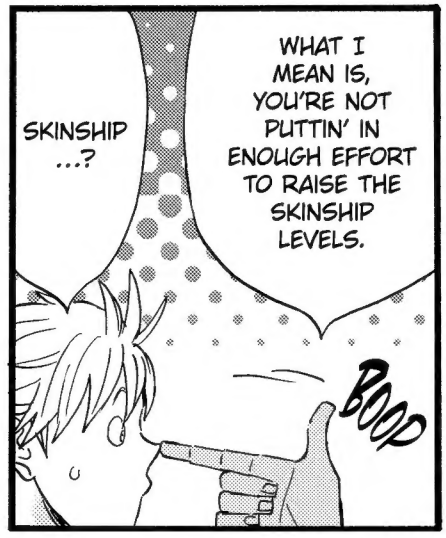

MIND IF I GIVE YA MY HONEST OPINION?
HUH? THAT SOUNDS SCARY...
BUT SURE, GO ON?
YA KNOW, KIRISHIMA-KUN...

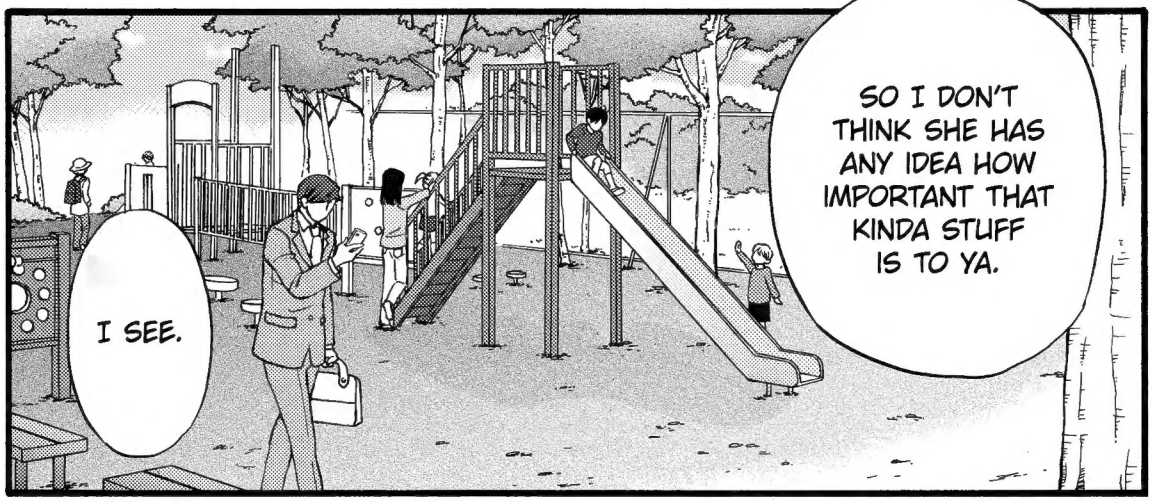
HMM...

I THINK I'M WORKING PRETTY HARD, THOUGH.
I'M COOKING, CLEANING, DOING LAUNDRY AND...
NAH, I'M NOT TALKIN' ABOUT THE HOUSEWORK.


I DON'T THINK YOU'RE PUTTIN' IN ENOUGH EFFORT.
WHAT...?


SNUGGLIN', FLIRTIN', AND ALL THOSE SORTS OF THINGS THAT FEEL GOOD...
TO THE INEXPERIENCED AI-CHAN, WHO HAS NEVER DATED ANYONE...
I THINK THEY'RE ALL PRETTY NEW. SHE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THEM, YA KNOW?

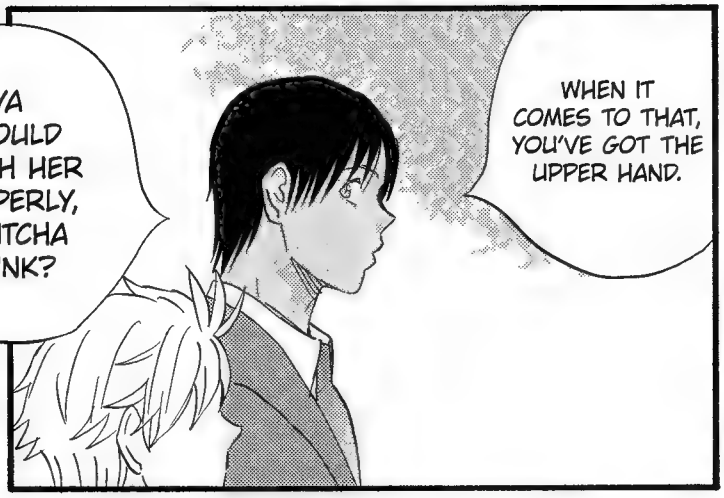

WHAT I MEAN IS, YOU'RE NOT PUTTIN' IN ENOUGH EFFORT TO RAISE THE SKINSHIP LEVELS.
SKINSHIP ...?
BOOP


SO I DON'T THINK SHE HAS ANY IDEA HOW IMPORTANT THAT KINDA STUFF IS TO YA.
I SEE.

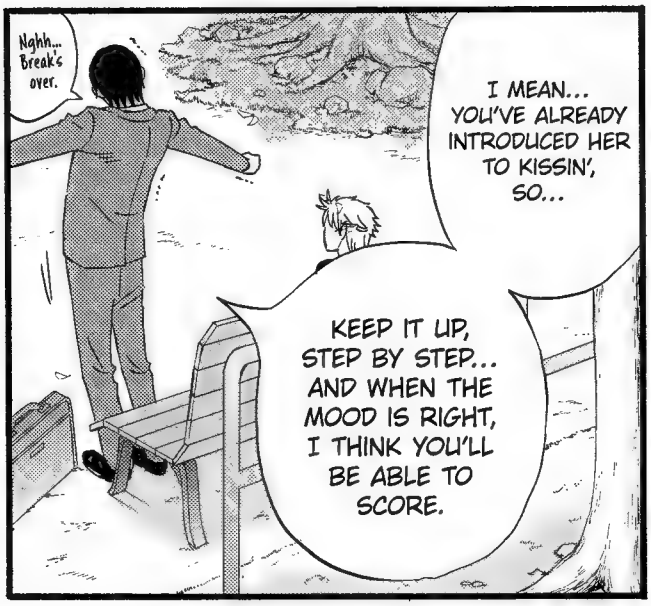
AI-CHAN MAY BE OLDER THAN YA, INTELLIGENT, AND SKILLED AT HER JOB, BUT...
WHEN IT COMES TO DATING, SHE'S A TOTAL NOOB.

THAT'S WHY YA HAVE TO MAKE HER SEE HOW FUN AND IMPORTANT SKINSHIP CAN BE FOR BOTH OF YA.
YA NEED TO RAISE HER AWARENESS.

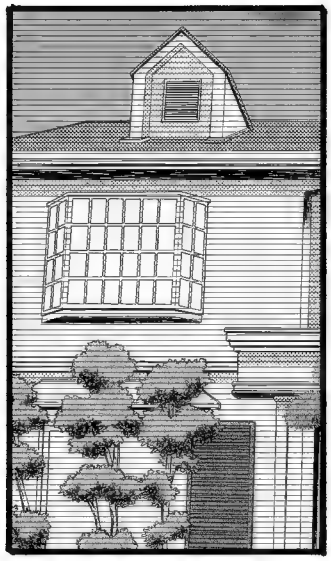
YA SHOULD TEACH HER PROPERLY, DONTCHA THINK?

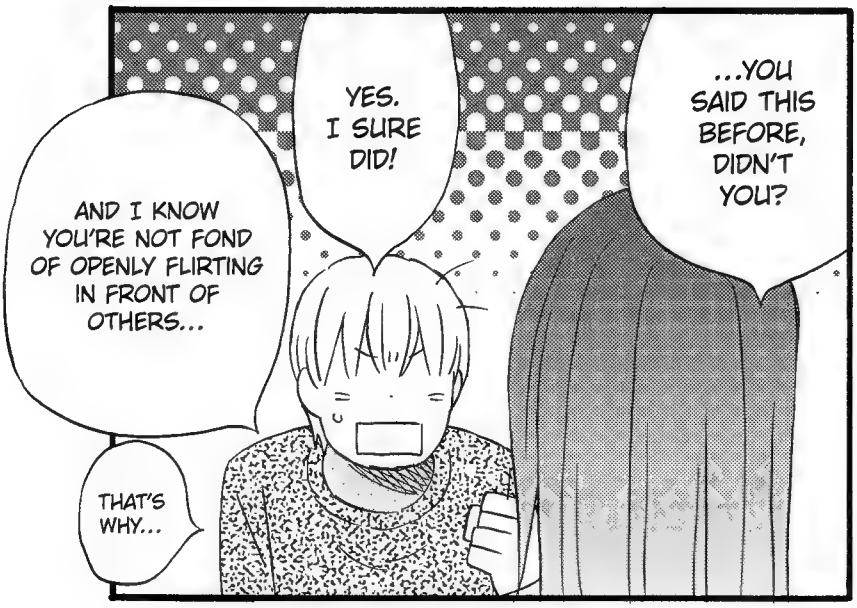

WHEN IT COMES TO THAT, YOU'VE GOT THE UPPER HAND.

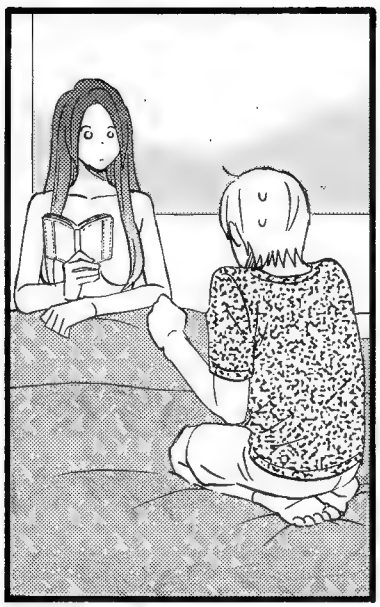
...
ALL RIGHT...

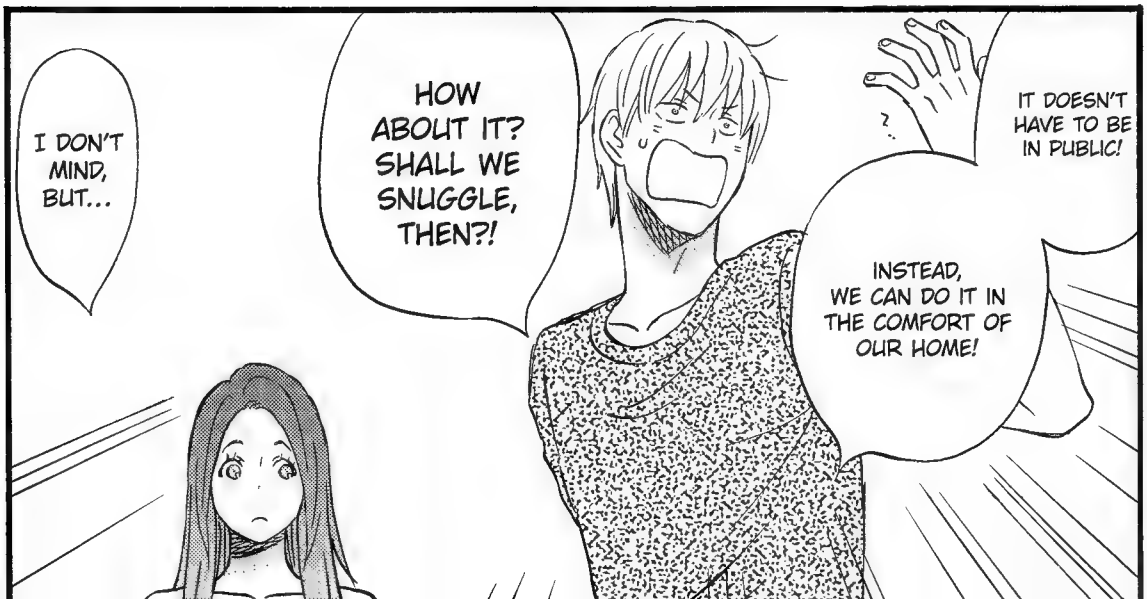

Nghh... Break's over.
I MEAN... YOU'VE ALREADY INTRODUCED HER TO KISSIN', SO...
KEEP IT UP, STEP BY STEP... AND WHEN THE MOOD IS RIGHT, I THINK YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SCORE.

LET'S SNUGGLE!



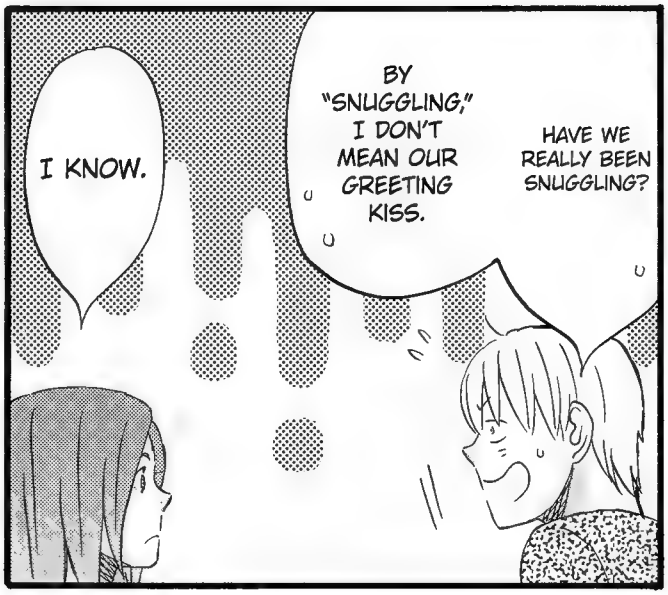

...YOU SAID THIS BEFORE, DIDN'T YOU?
YES. I SURE DID!
AND I KNOW YOU'RE NOT FOND OF OPENLY FLIRTING IN FRONT OF OTHERS...
THAT'S WHY...



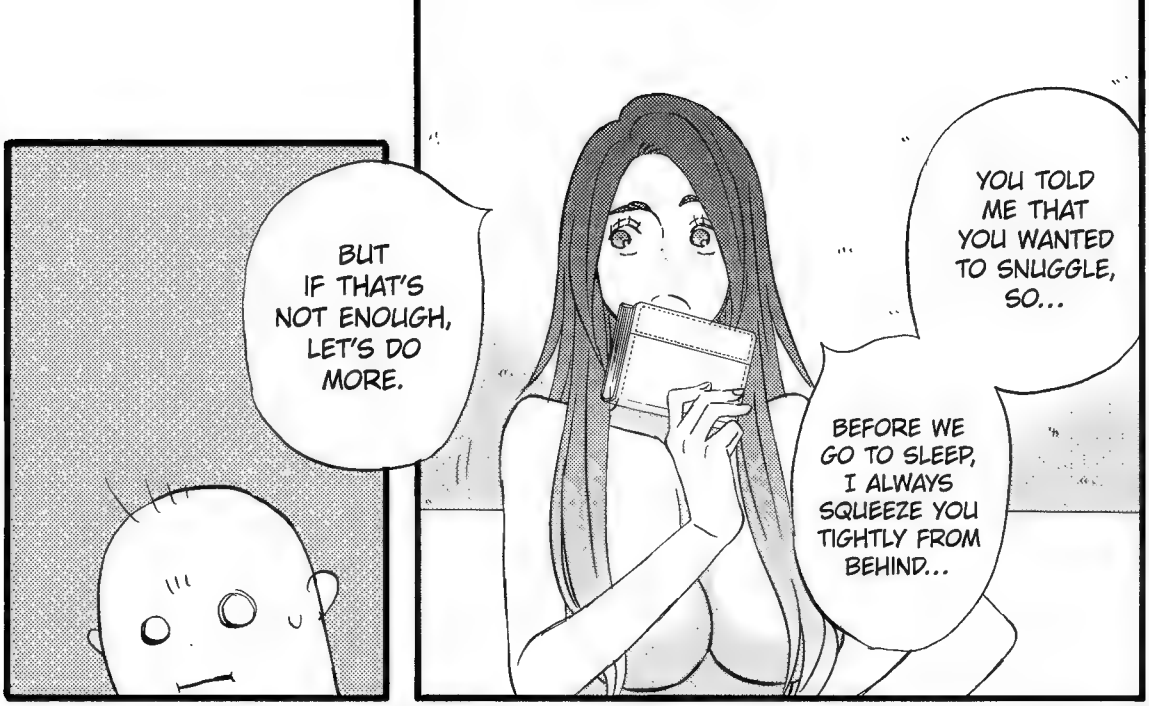

I DON'T MIND, BUT...
HOW ABOUT IT? SHALL WE SNUGGLE, THEN?!
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE IN PUBLIC!
INSTEAD, WE CAN DO IT IN THE COMFORT OF OUR HOME!

HUH?
WE DO SNUGGLE A LOT, THOUGH. IS IT STILL NOT ENOUGH?

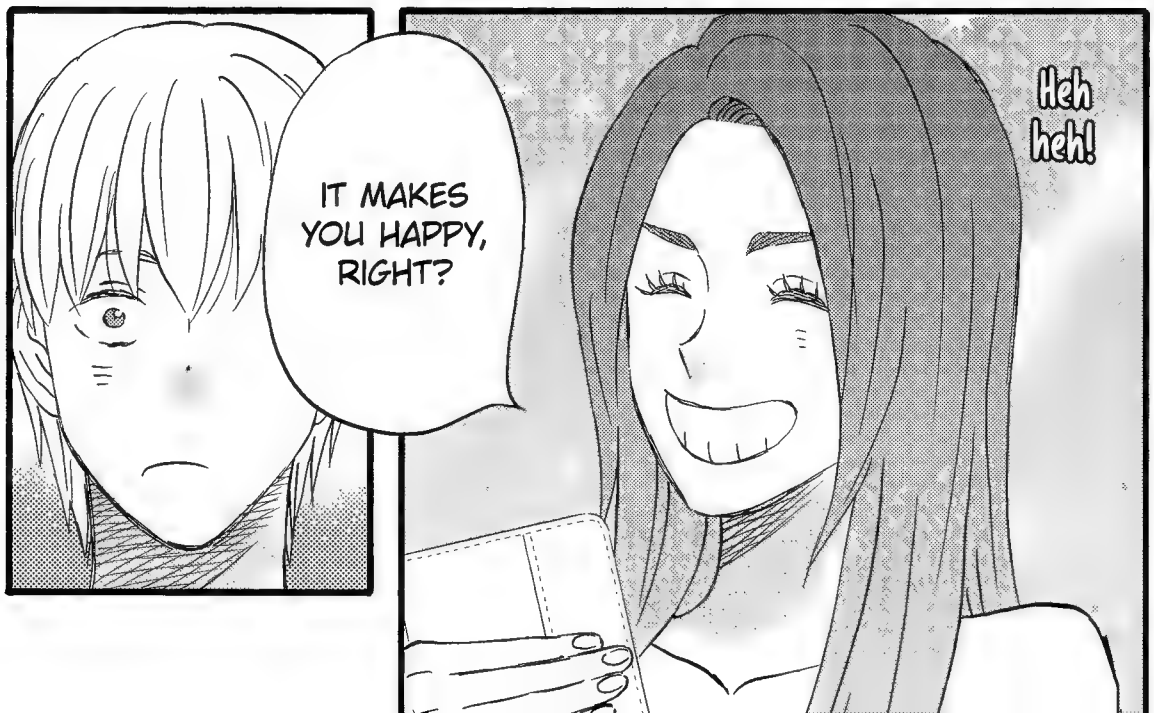
I HUG YOU LIKE THIS...

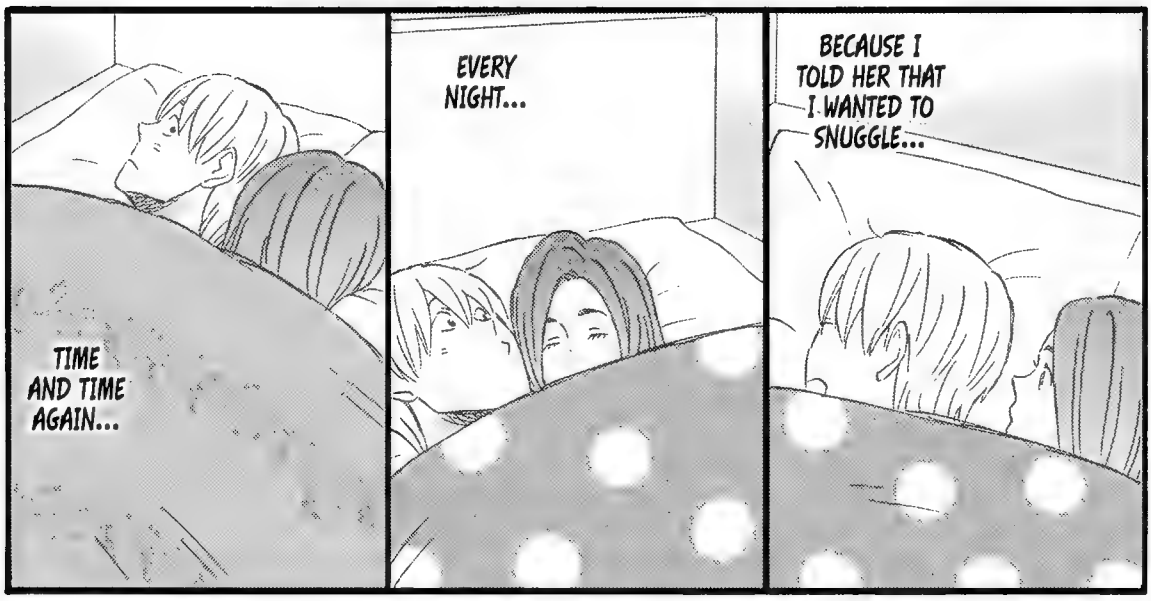

I KNOW.
BY "SNUGGLING," I DON'T MEAN OUR GREETING KISS.
HAVE WE REALLY BEEN SNUGGLING?

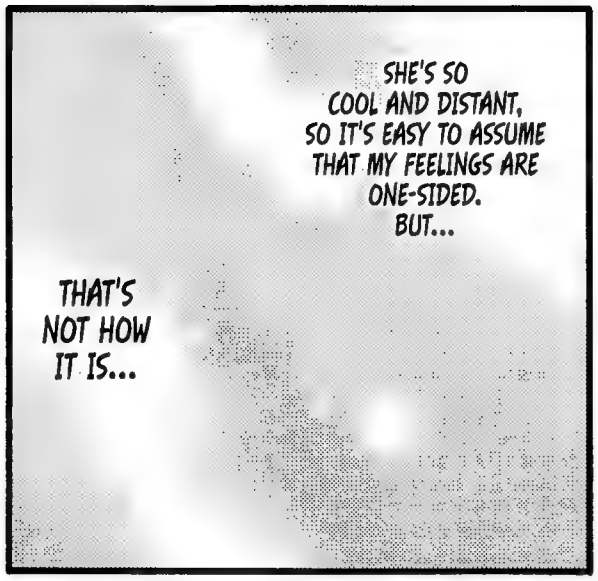
OHH...
"WHEN SHE STICKS CLOSE TO ME LIKE THIS AT NIGHT..."
BEFORE I GO TO SLEEP.

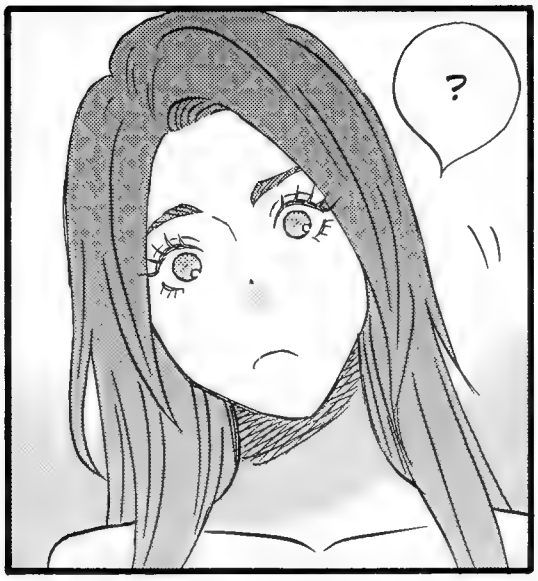

YOU TOLD ME THAT YOU WANTED TO SNUGGLE, SO...
BEFORE WE GO TO SLEEP, I ALWAYS SQUEEZE YOU TIGHTLY FROM BEHIND...
BUT IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH, LET'S DO MORE.

HUH? WHAT?!
WAIT...
YOU'VE BEEN DOING THAT BECAUSE I TOLD YOU THAT I WANTED TO SNUGGLE?
YEAH. I DO THAT EVERY NIGHT BEFORE I GO TO SLEEP.


Heh heh!
IT MAKES YOU HAPPY, RIGHT?

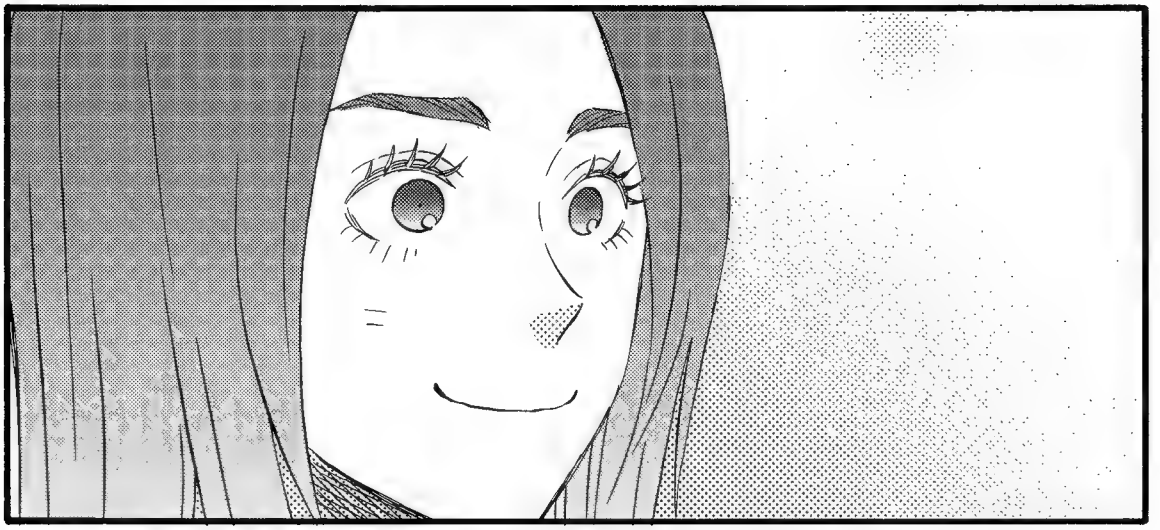

TIME AND TIME AGAIN...
EVERY NIGHT...
BECAUSE I TOLD HER THAT I WANTED TO SNUGGLE...

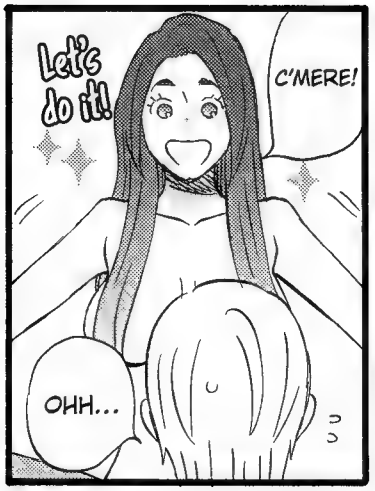

THAT'S NOT HOW IT IS...
SHE'S SO COOL AND DISTANT, SO IT'S EASY TO ASSUME THAT MY FEELINGS ARE ONE-SIDED. BUT...

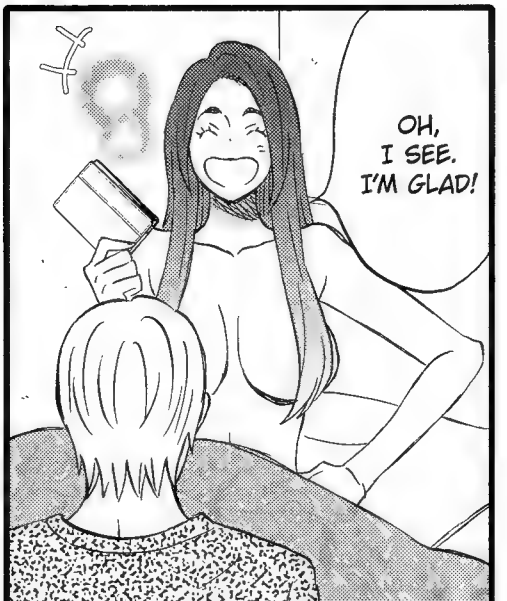

?

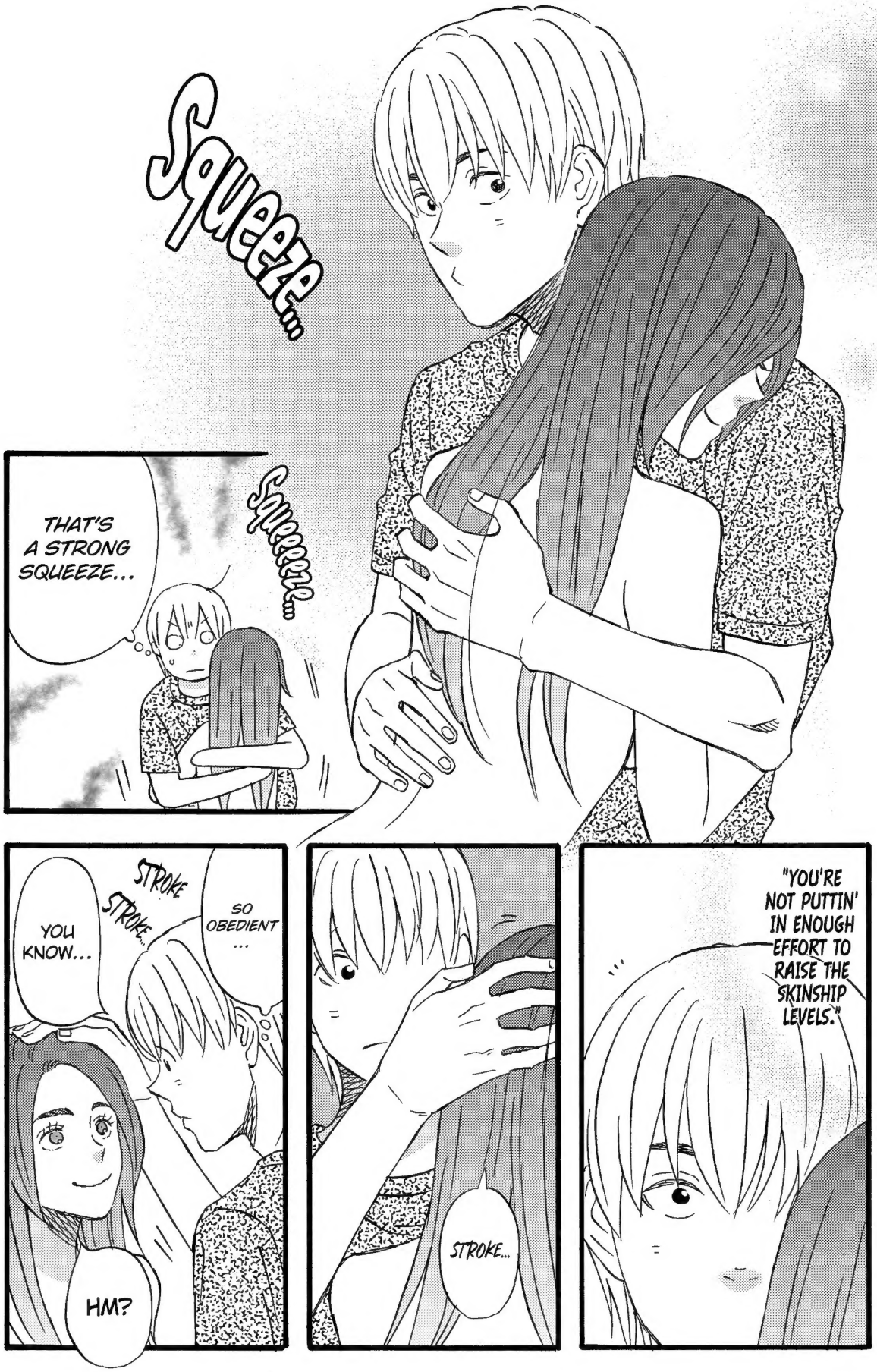
THAT'S WHY...
YES... IT MAKES ME HAPPY.
REALLY... WHAT A FRANK AND AWKWARD PERSON...

I WANT TO SNUGGLE WITH YOU EVEN MORE!








Squeeze...
THAT'S A STRONG SQUEEZE...
Squeeze?...
YOU KNOW...
STROKE
STROKE...
SO OBEDIENT ...
HM?
STROKE...
...
"YOU'RE NOT PUTTIN' IN ENOUGH EFFORT TO RAISE THE SKINSHIP LEVELS."

They always say I'm beautiful.

...Right.

...REALLY? PEOPLE DON'T USUALLY TELL ME I'M CUTE.

Heh heh...

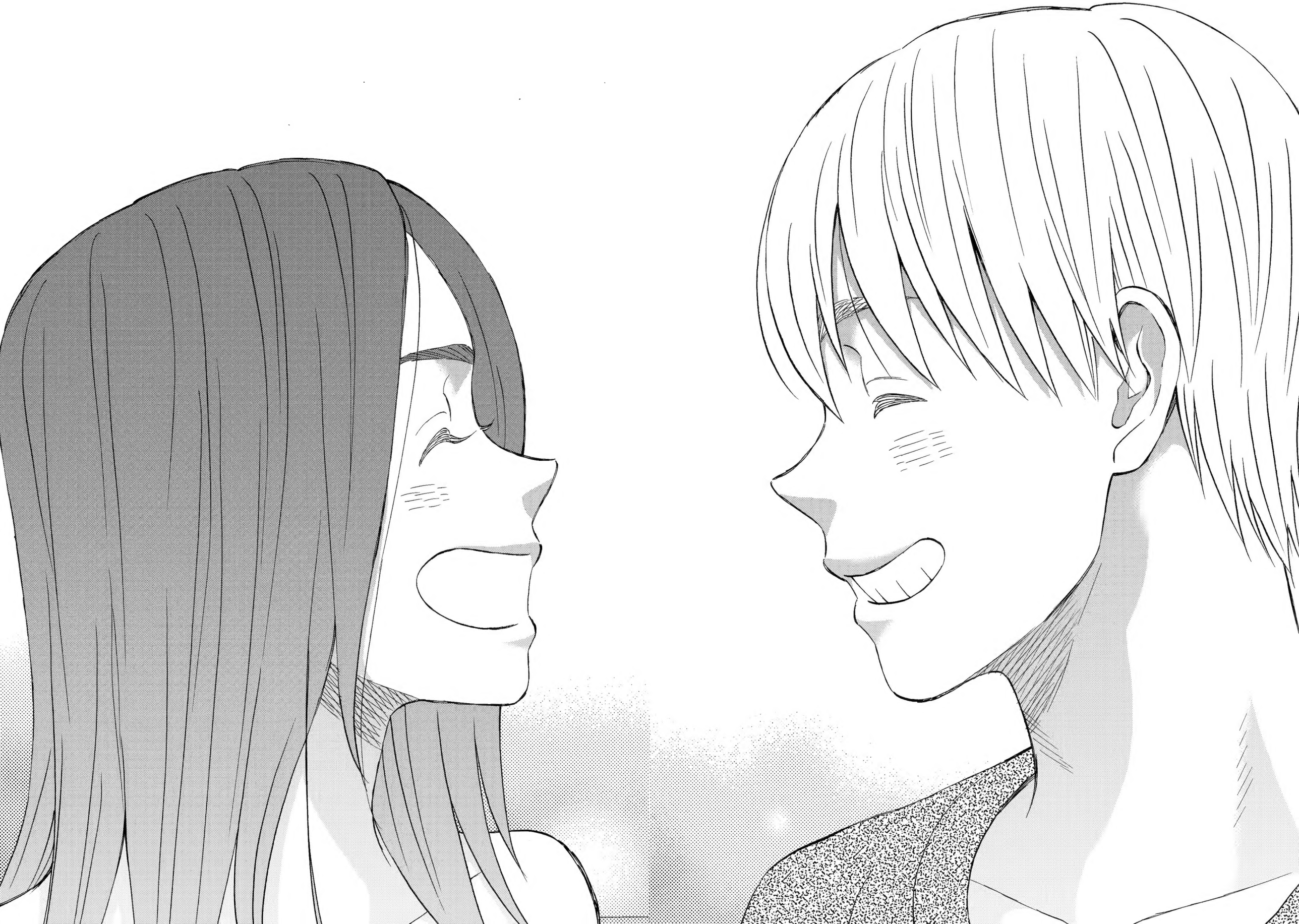
YOU'RE VERY CUTE, ISHIMURA-SAN.

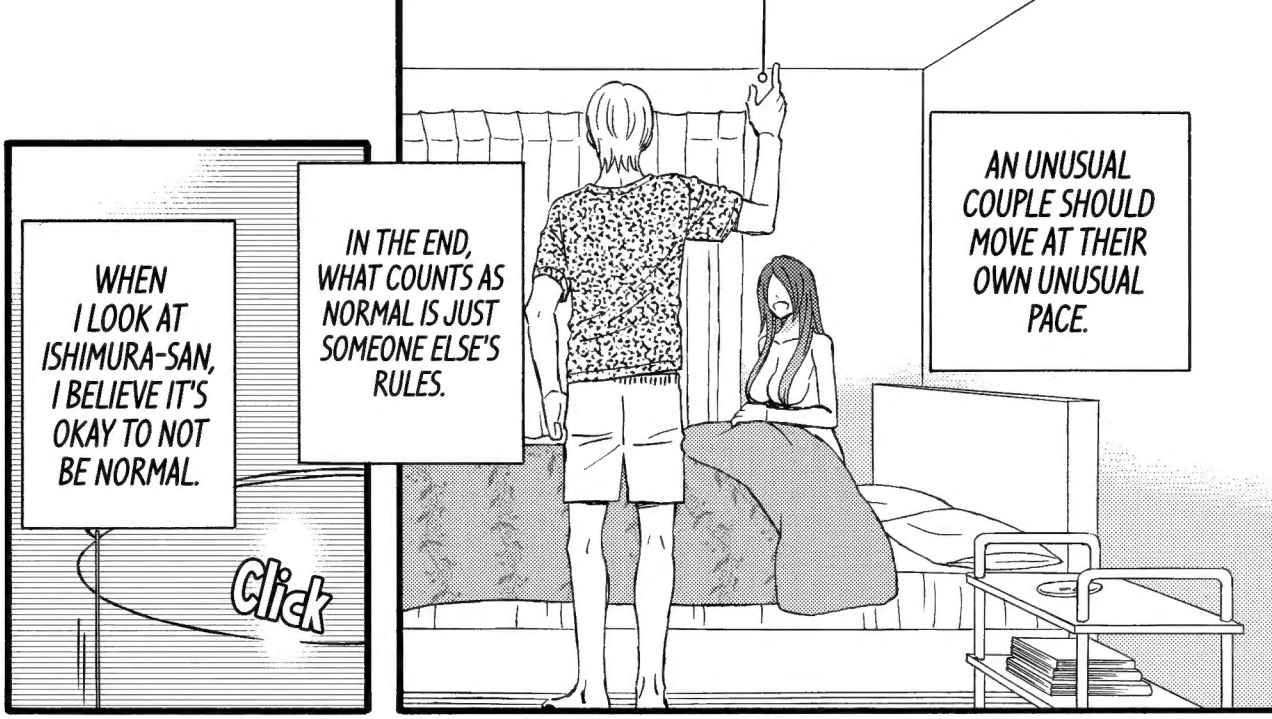
I'VE BEEN IN SUCH A HURRY TO DO IT WITH HER, BUT NOW...

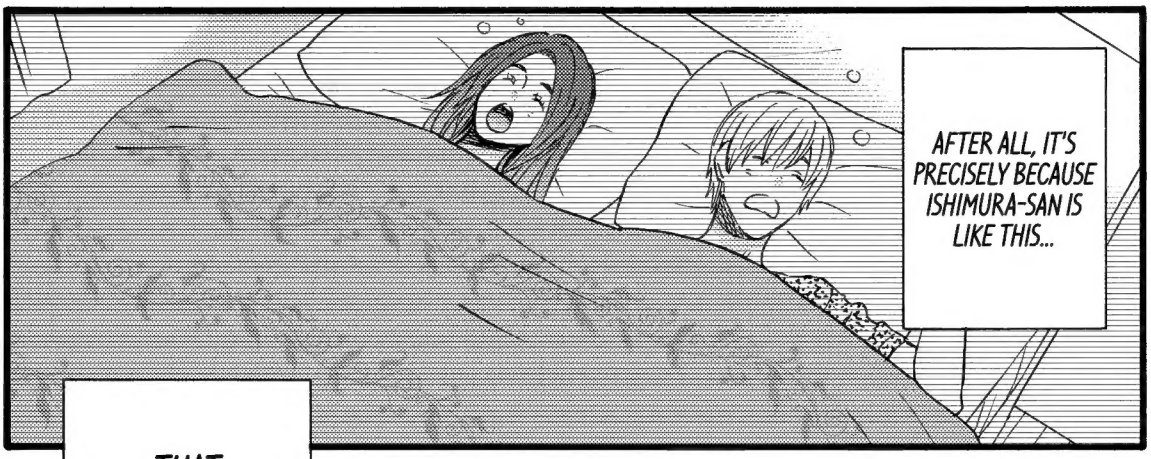
IT'S LIKE THAT IMPATIENCE HAS NEVER EXISTED.

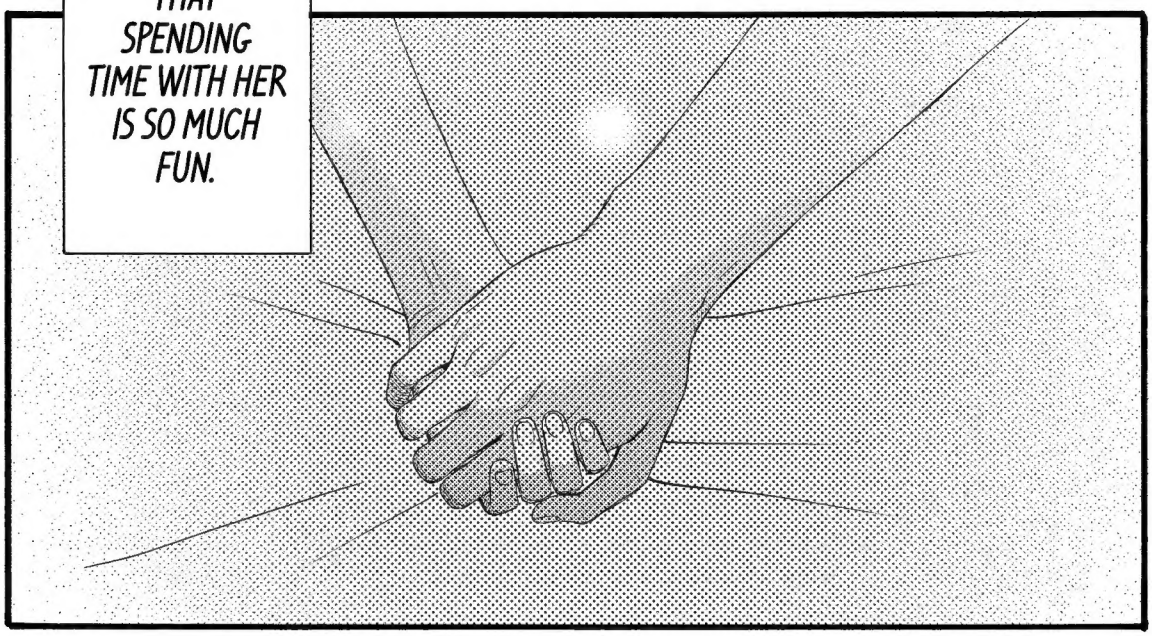
I'M SURE I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS HOW CUTE SHE IS.

AT LEAST FOR A LITTLE LONGER, I'M SURE THE TWO OF US WILL BE OKAY.




WHEN I LOOK AT ISHIMURA-SAN, I BELIEVE IT'S OKAY TO NOT BE NORMAL.
Click
IN THE END, WHAT COUNTS AS NORMAL IS JUST SOMEONE ELSE'S RULES.
AN UNUSUAL COUPLE SHOULD MOVE AT THEIR OWN UNUSUAL PACE.


AFTER ALL, IT'S PRECISELY BECAUSE ISHIMURA-SAN IS LIKE THIS...


THAT SPENDING TIME WITH HER IS SO MUCH FUN.